

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST ADDENDUM SHEET  
U.S. 301 SOUTH CORRIDOR TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Property Name: Bowling Heights  
Survey No.: PG:79-5

Property Address 3610 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address John and Frances Myers, 3610 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro MD 20772  
Year Built 1877

**Description:**

Bowling Heights was previously surveyed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in 1969 and the Maryland Historical Trust in 1980. The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Since the time of the previous surveys, there have been no changes to the property.

**National Register Evaluation:**

Bowling Heights was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in November 1982. Bowling Heights is also a contributing resource within the Woodland Historic District (PG:79-63). The Woodland Historic District was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places by the Maryland Historical Trust in July 1993.

**Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:**

The National Register Boundaries for Bowling Heights follow those described in Prince George's County Land Records Liber 2954, Folio 129. The 6.07-hectare (15-acre) parcel is bounded on the north by West Village Drive, on the east by suburban development, on the south by a private lane, and on the west by Old Crain Highway. The boundary includes the main house, meat house and dairy as contributing resources. The boundary encompasses the immediate surroundings of the buildings, which are arranged on top of a hill.

**MHT CONCURRENCE:**

Eligibility ☒ recommended ☐ not recommended

Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

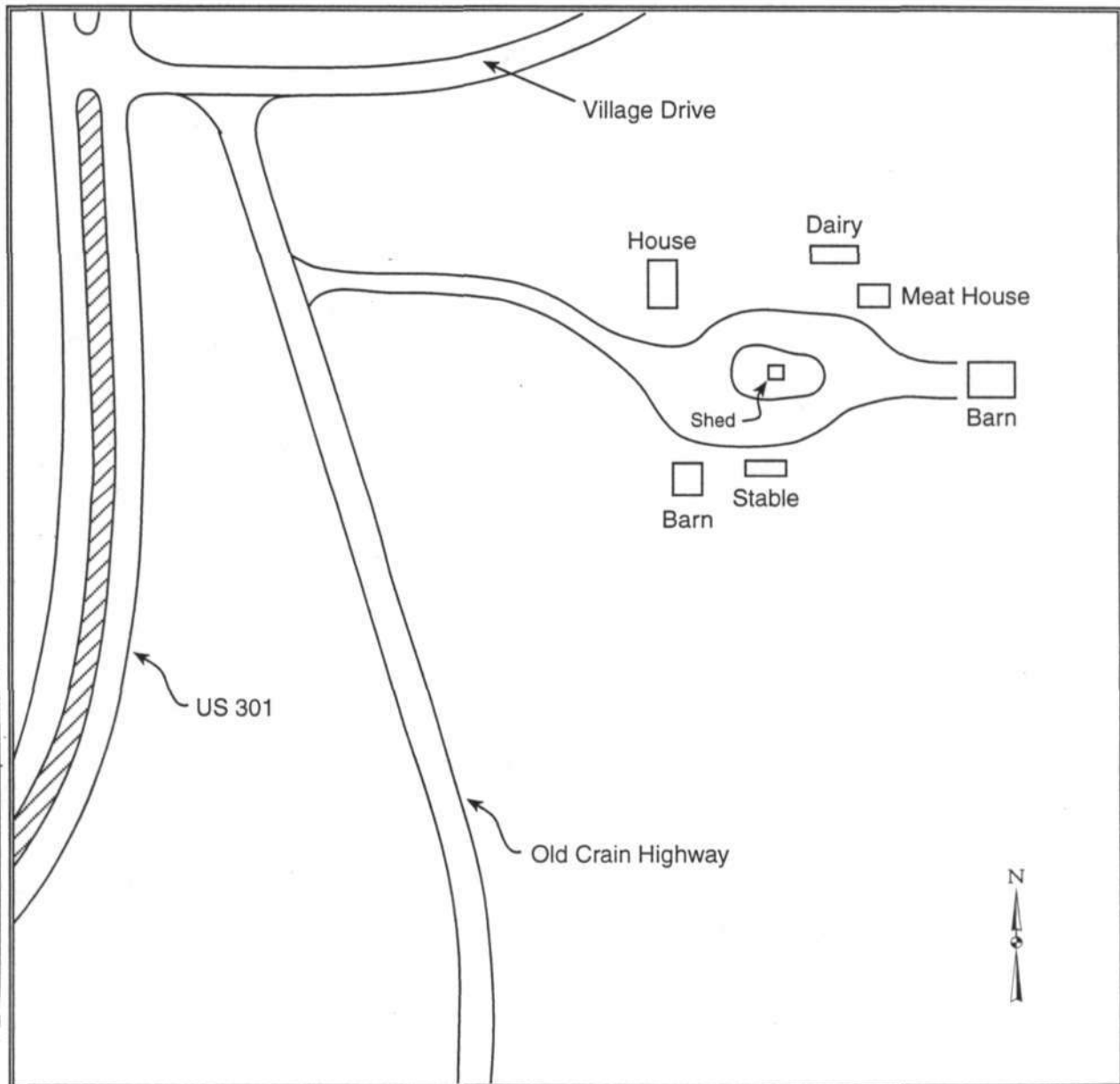
  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

Reviewer, NR program

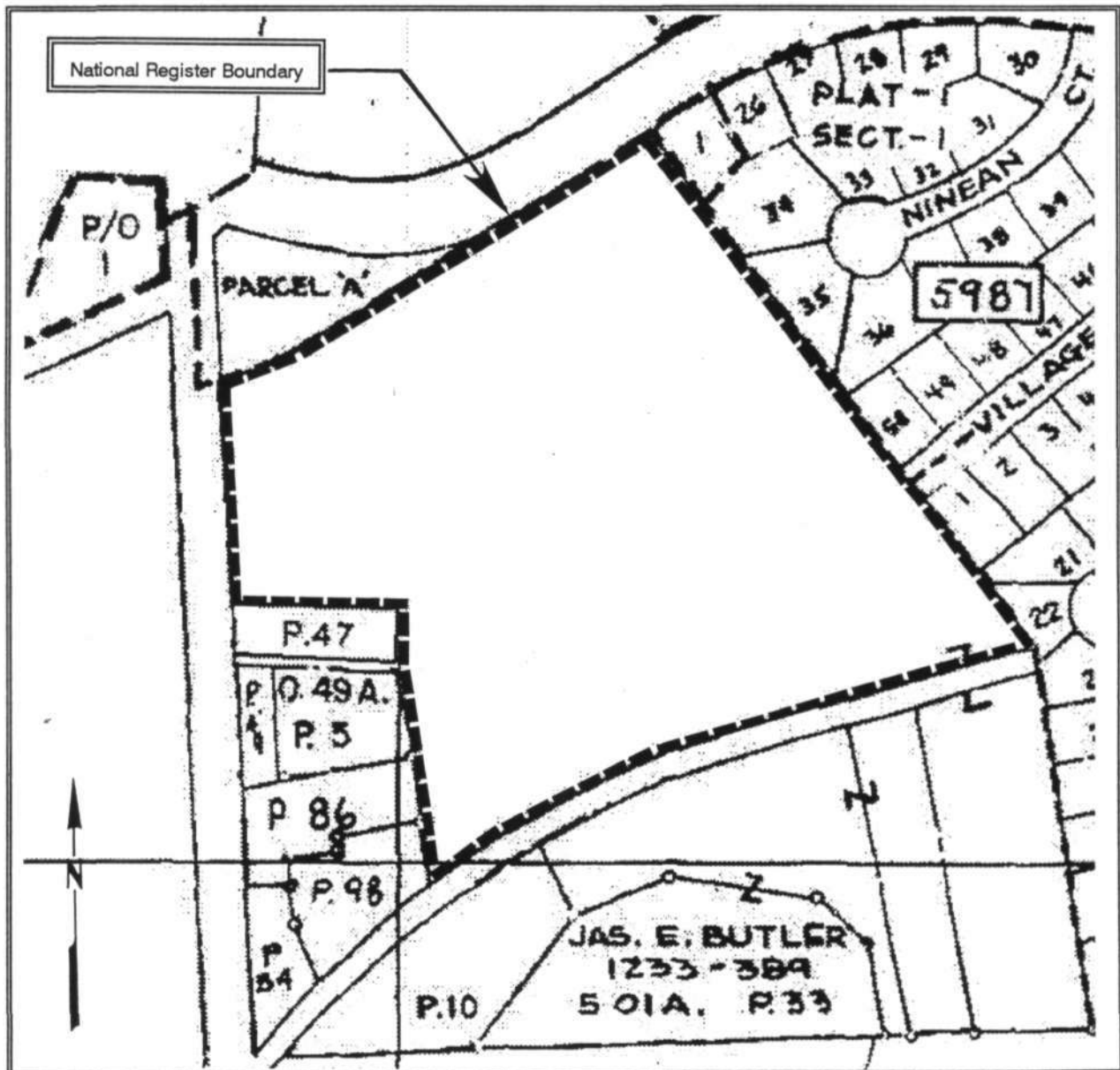
Date

Property Address 3610 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address John and Frances Myers, 3610 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro MD 20772  
Year Built 1877

Resource Sketch Map:



**National Register Boundary Map:**



U.S. 301 South Corridor  
Transportation Study

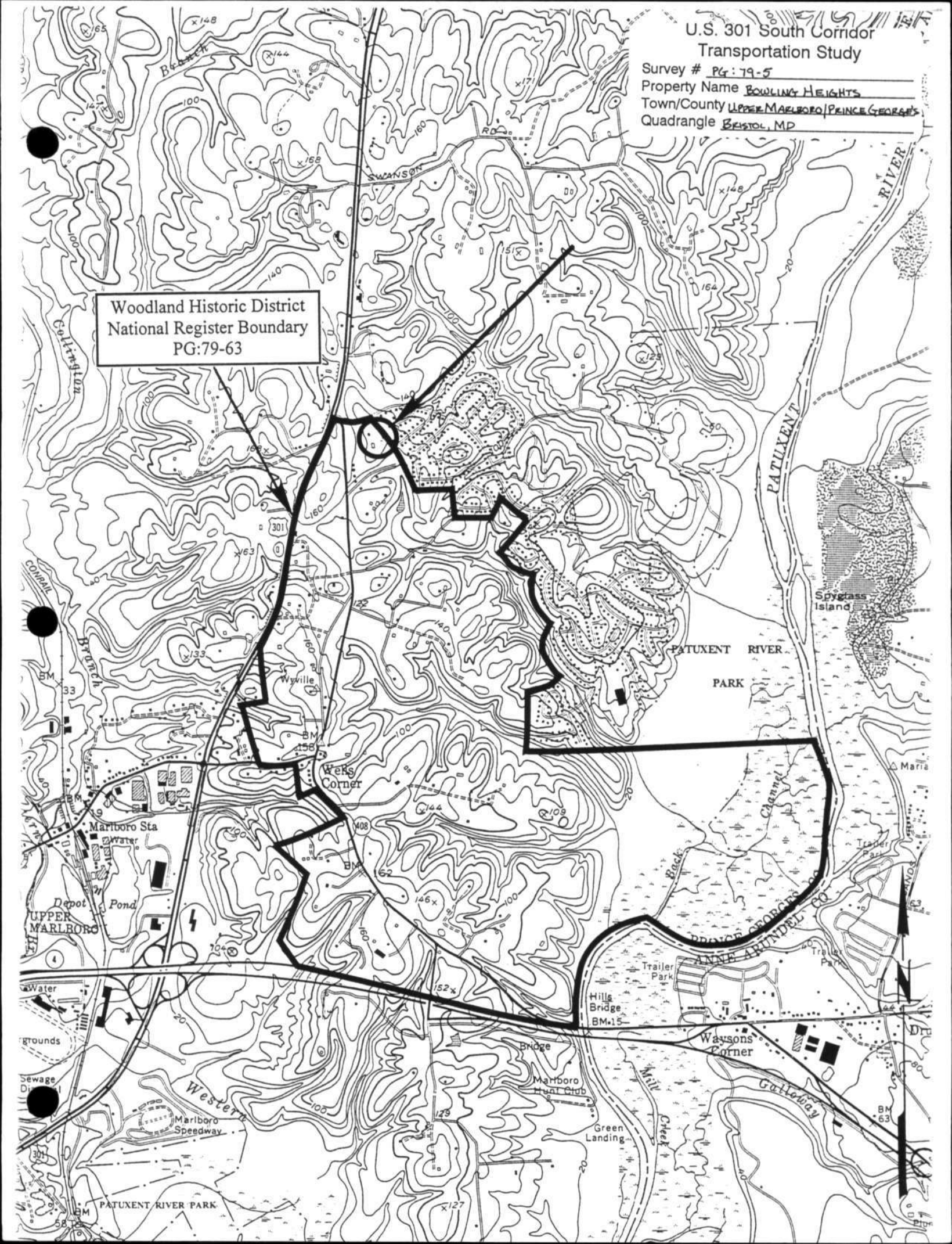
Survey # PG: 79-5

Property Name BOWLING HEIGHTS

Town/County UPPER MARLBORO/PRINCE GEORGES

Quadrangle BEISTOL, MD

Woodland Historic District  
National Register Boundary  
PG: 79-63







1. PG: 79-5
2. BOWLING HEIGHTS
3. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD
4. TIM TAMBURRINO
5. NOVEMBER 1998
6. MD SHPO
7. 3610 OLD CRAIN HIGHWAY, HOUSE, FRONT ELEVATION  
VIEW E
8. 1 OF 5



1. PG: 79-5
2. BOWLING HEIGHTS
3. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD
4. TIM TAMBURRINO
5. NOVEMBER 1998
6. MD SHPO
7. 3610 OLD CRAIN HIGHWAY, HOUSE, SOUTHEAST CORNER  
VIEW NW
8. 2 OF 5





1. PG: 79-5
2. BOWLING HEIGHTS
3. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD
4. TIM TAMBURRINO
5. NOVEMBER 1998
6. MD SHPO
7. 3610 OLD CRAIN HIGHWAY, BARN AND FARM LANE  
VIEW SW
8. 3 OF 5



1. PG: 79-5
2. BOWLING HEIGHTS
3. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD
4. TIM TAMBURRINO
5. NOVEMBER 1998
6. MD SHPO
7. 3610 OLD CRAIN HIGHWAY, BARN  
VIEW E

B. 4 of 5



1. PG: 79-5
2. BOWLING HEIGHTS
3. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD
4. TIM TAMBURRINO
5. NOVEMBER 1998
6. MD SHPO
7. 3610 OLD CRAIN HIGHWAY, VIEW SOUTH FROM STABLE VIEW S
8. 5 OF 5



United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

## 1. Name

historic Bowling Heights

and or common Bowling Heights

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 3610 Old Crain Highway N/A not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro ☒ vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Maryland code 24 county Prince George's code 033

## 3. Classification

| Category  | Ownership  | Status                                     | Present Use   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public                    | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied          | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private        | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied        | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both                      | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress  | <input type="checkbox"/> educational                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                          | <b>Accessible</b>                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process                | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted   | <input type="checkbox"/> religious                    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered          | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific                   |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no     | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation               |
|   |  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> other:                       |

## 4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. John M. Myers

street &amp; number 3610 Old Crain Highway

city, town Upper Marlboro ☒ vicinity of state Maryland 20870

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse

street &amp; number Main Street

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20870

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Maryland National Capital Park  
title and Planning Commission Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1969 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

PG: 79-5

**Condition**

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unpreserved

**Check one**

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

**Check one**

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Bowling Heights, located near Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland, is a large 2½ story frame house constructed in 1877 in the High Victorian Gothic style. The principal (west) facade is five bays wide, spanned by a one-story porch. The entrance, with paneled double doors, is located in the central bay; floor-to-ceiling 2/4 windows are found in each of the flanking bays. Shuttered 2/2 windows define the five bays of the second floor. The central bay is recessed on both levels. The steep mansard roof is clad in polychrome slates and given complex form by multiple dormers and cross-gables. Two tall paneled chimneys with corbeled caps rise at either end of the main block. A 1½ story T-shaped wing extends to the north, consisting of a two-bay, gable-roofed hyphen terminating in a deeper, one-bay section which features a high, steep hipped roof with decorative ridge cresting and a corbeled chimney rising above its east slope. A one-story, one-bay semioctagonal wing projects to the north; the eaves of its steep hipped roof are broken by gothic-arched stained glass transoms on three sides. The building is clad in narrow German siding, with applied stickwork defining panels in the window areas of the facade, and vertical board and batten siding in the frieze and gable peaks. A wealth of High Victorian Gothic detailing characterizes both exterior and interior. On the exterior, elaborate sawn and carved bracketing enhances the many gables, dormers, and porches; applied stickwork segments the facade; the chimneys are richly paneled and corbeled and polychrome slates form a pattern on the roof. The interior retains a similar abundance of period decoration, including a triple-run stair with Eastlake newel and balusters, inlaid floors, marble fireplace surrounds, and plaster ceiling medallions. The property also contains a meat house and dairy which are probably contemporaneous with the house, and several 20th-century outbuildings supporting its continuing association with dairy and horse farming.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Bowling Heights is located on the east side of Old Crain Highway, southeast of its junction with U. S. 301, and about two miles north of the intersection of Maryland 4 and U. S. 301, near Upper Marlboro. A sloping lane approaches the house which is sited amid large old trees on a ridge above the road.

The house is of frame construction, a tripartite composition which incorporates a wealth of design features characteristic of the High Victorian Gothic style of architecture of the late 19th century. The main block is 2½ stories high, five bays wide by two rooms deep, and faces west. The roof, clad in polychrome slates, is complex in form: on the west facade a steep front-facing gable holding a double 2/2 sash surmounts the two northernmost bays, while the remaining three bays are crowned with a mansard punctuated by two gabled dormers. The facing gable features stickwork ornament resembling a stylized king-post truss; the dormers have similar decoration, combining rectilinear and scroll-sawn elements. The central dormer holds a single 2/2 sash, while the southerly one is larger and contains a pair of such windows. The roof is patterned in bands of colored fishscale slates, and has a slight kick at the eaves.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

PG:79-5

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Bowling Heights Prince George's County, MD Item number 7 Page 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The entrance is located in the central bay, which is recessed on both the first and second floor levels. A one-story porch spans the facade, sheltering the double-paneled doors and the two floor-to-ceiling 2/4 windows which flank them on either side. The porch features chamfered posts decorated with perforations and gougework, arched brackets, and an unusual scroll-sawn balustrade which echoes the ornamentation of the dormers.

The five bays of the second story are defined by shuttered 2/2 windows: a recess, decorated with curved brackets and a balustrade, frames the central window.

The east facade is virtually a mirror image of the west, except that the central bay is not recessed.

The entire building is clad in German siding, with applied horizontal boards at sill and lintel defining the window areas, and with vertical board-and-batten siding in the frieze and gable peaks.

Ornate dormers pierce the north and south slopes of the roof. Both the north and south elevations have two exterior brick chimneys; those on the south, and one on the northeast, are elaborately paneled, chamfered, and corbeled. A pent connects the south chimneys, just below the frieze. The northeast chimney is adorned at the attic level with flanking quarter-round windows and an extension of the main roof which forms a bracketed gable around the stack.

A 1½ story T-shaped wing extends to the south, consisting of a two bay wide gabled hyphen terminating in a deeper, one-bay section featuring a high, steep hip roof with decorative ridge cresting. Gabled dormers break the slightly-flaring eaves, two on the east and three on the west facade; a single such dormer appears on the south. All dormers feature ornament identical to that found on the single-window dormers of the main block. On the east and west facades, shuttered 2/2 windows are aligned below the dormers at first-floor level; a pair of 2/2 windows appears on the south end.

A one-story, semi-octagonal wing projects to the north, one bay in width. Gothid-arched stained-glass transoms break the eaves of the steep hipped roof on the north, east, and west sides, sheltered by bracketed gables like those above the dormers on the south wing, already described. Doorways pierce the east and west facades of the wing, and 2/2 windows appear in the northeast and northwest facets.

In the interior, the main block is arranged in a center-hall plan, the hall running west to east with two rooms on either side. The north wing is accessible through the northeast room and the south wing through the southwest room.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

PG:79-5

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received

date entered

Bowling Heights

Continuation sheet Prince George's Co., MD

Item number

7 & 10

Page

2

GENERAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

The main (west) entrance leads into the hallway, which has been bisected by a temporary north-south partition. The stair rises in a triple run at the east end of the hall; the newel and balusters are of dark stained wood in the East-lake style. The newel post is square in section, with an incised design on each side, and is capped with an octagonal cone with a round finial. The heavy molded handrail is carried on chamfered balusters joined by half-height cutouts, each supporting three turned balusters. Alternating wide walnut and ash boards form a striped pattern on the hall floor. The hall and first-floor rooms have 11½ foot ceilings with heavy Italianate cornices and deeply molded door and window trim.

The pairs of rooms on each side of the hall are very similar to one another in configuration and decorative detailing. The east and west rooms are joined by large double sliding doors. Centered in each ceiling is a large plaster medallion of elaborate foliated design; those in the two north rooms also have rings of female heads in full relief. Each room has a marble fireplace surround, composed of pilasters supporting a frieze with a low arch profile on the lower side, and a broad marble mantel. The southwest room has a striped ash and walnut floor; its ceiling medallion features fruits and vegetables, appropriate to its use as a dining room.

The north wing has been divided with a temporary partition for use as kitchen and laundry. The twenty-foot arched vault has been enclosed with a conventional flat ceiling above the cornice. The walnut and ash striped floor has been covered to protect it. According to tradition, this wing originally served as a chapel, and later as a game room.

The south wing, currently used as an office, retains much of its woodwork. A small fireplace heats the paneled southernmost room.

Alterations have been made carefully, with full consideration given to their reversibility in the event of future restoration; all modern partitions are temporary, and no trim has been disturbed by their insertion.

Outbuildings located southeast of the house include a meat house and dairy probably contemporaneous with the house, and several 20th century barns and related structures which, while not contributing directly to the significance of the site are nevertheless consistent with Bowling Heights' long-standing association with dairy and horse farming.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The 15-acre parcel is defined on the north, south, and east sides by recent housing developments and on the west by Old Crain Highway. The nominated acreage preserves the integrity of Bowling Heights' dramatic hilltop setting.



## 8. Significance

PG:79-5

| Period  | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below    |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric          | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates 1877

Builder/Architect

George N. Ellis, carpenter

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The significance of Bowling Heights derives from its architecture. As a residence executed in a richly-ornamented interpretation of the High Victorian Gothic style, Bowling Heights embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type of architecture that was popular in urban areas in the 1870s and was usually expressed in masonry, but is rarely found in rural Maryland, expressed in wood-frame construction. The important exterior features of Bowling Heights include its complex, asymmetrical massing; its multiple gable forms with elaborate scroll-sawn and stickwork ornamentation; its patterned polychrome slate roof; and the use of recessed bays, applied horizontal-board banding, and a variety of siding treatments to create visual interest in the facade. On the interior, the patterned flooring, Eastlake stair, heavy molds and ornate ceiling medallions are notable. Bowling Heights is the largest and most fully expressed example of this style in Prince George's County.

#### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Bowling Heights was constructed for John D. Bowling in 1877, as indicated by a penciled inscription which was revealed when brass hardware was removed from a door: "George N. Ellis, carpenter, Baltimore, 1877". This date agrees with that of John D. Bowling's purchase of the land, which had formerly belonged to his father-in-law, Mordecai Plummer.<sup>1</sup> A native of Prince George's County, Bowling had come to Upper Marlboro from his family's seat near Aquasco.

Bowling died in 1887, but his widow retained ownership of the property until 1917.<sup>2</sup> Ownership of the property has changed only once since that time.

#### Notes

<sup>1</sup>Deed HB#12/542, Prince George's County Land Records, Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

<sup>2</sup>Deed 124/460, Prince George's County Land Records.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

PG: 79-5

Prince George's County Land Records, Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland  
Prince George's County Marriage Records, Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland  
Prince George's County Probate Records, Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 15 acresQuadrangle name BristolQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 18 350350 43000340  
Zone Easting Northing

B 18 350440 4300100  
Zone Easting Northing

C 18 350110 4300000

D 18 350090 4300260

E                        

F                        

G                        

H                        

### Verbal boundary description and justification

#### DESCRIPTION:

As recorded in Prince George's County Courthouse Records Deed 2954/129.

For JUSTIFICATION, see Continuation Sheet No. 2

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | N/A | code | county | code |
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|
|-------|-----|------|--------|------|

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Peter Kurtze with research by Margaret W. Cookorganization Maryland Historical Trustdate October 1980street & number 21 State Circletelephone 301-269-2438city or town Annapolisstate Maryland 21401

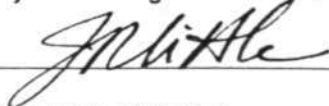
## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

   national    state   X   local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

10-25-82title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

date

### For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

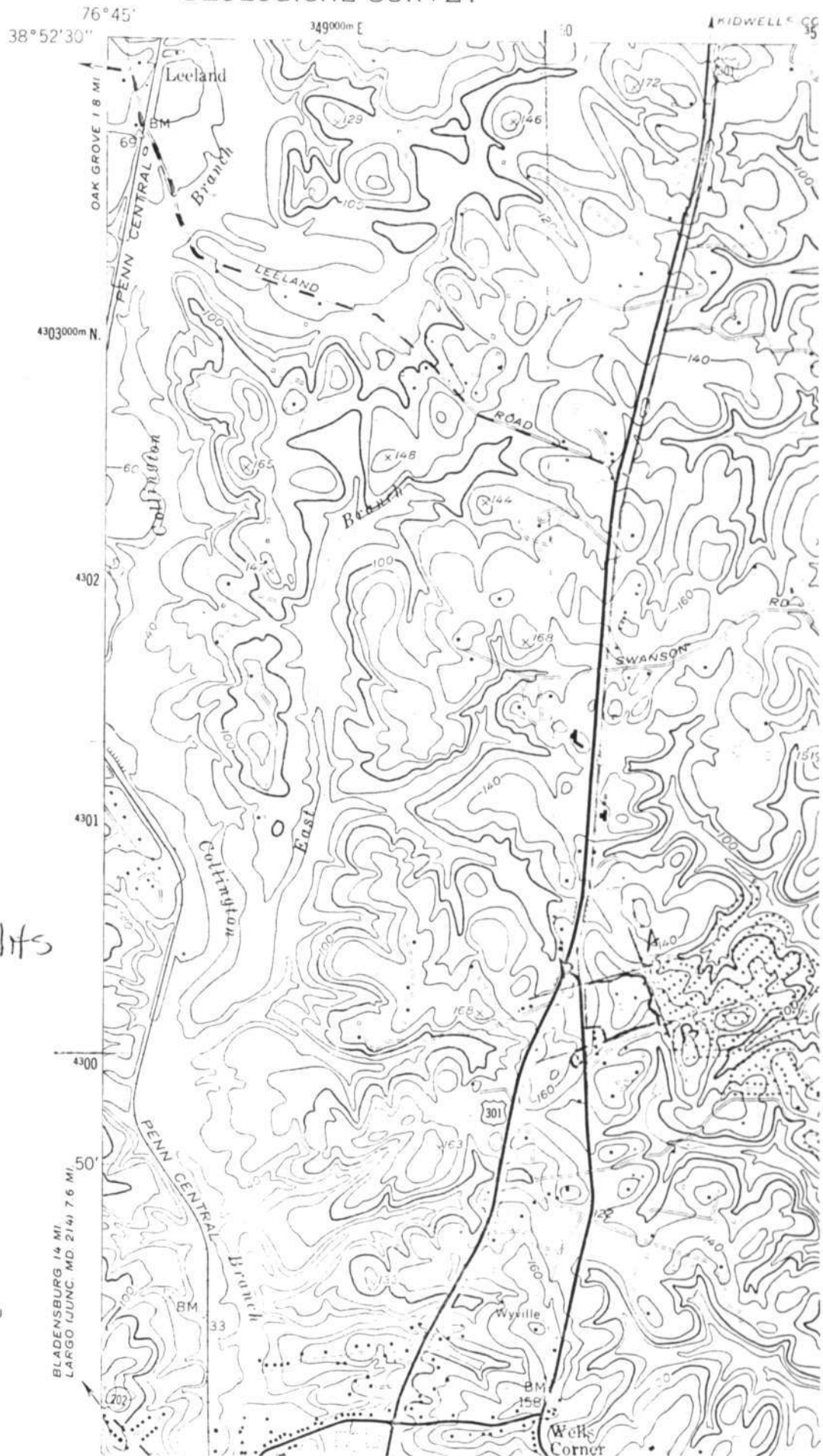
Chief of Registration



61 IV NE  
ANHAM

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

PG: 79-5



Bowling Heights

A 18/350 350  
4300240

B 18/350 440  
4300100

C 18/350 LLC  
4300000

D 18/350 690  
4300260

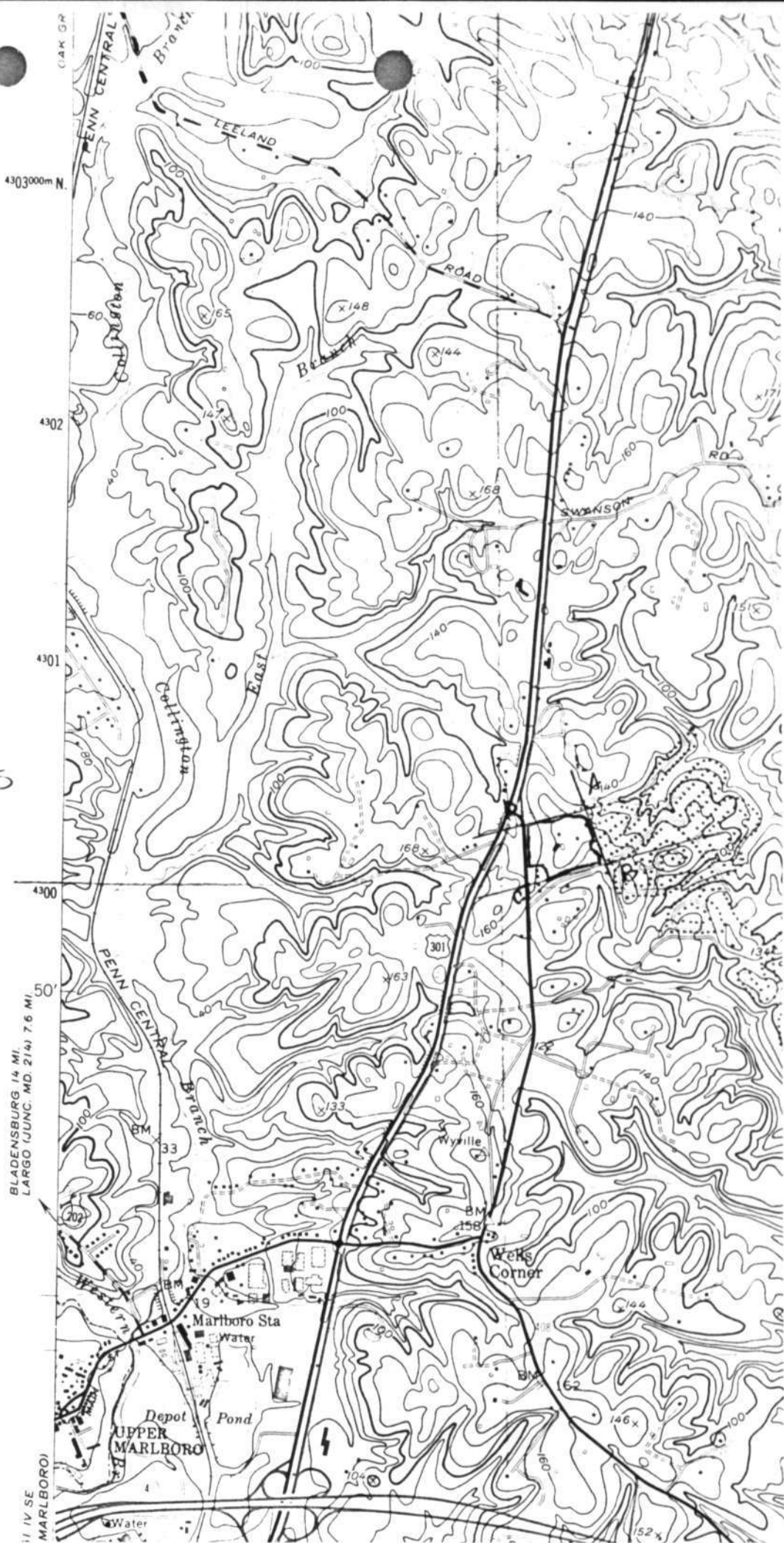
Scouting heights

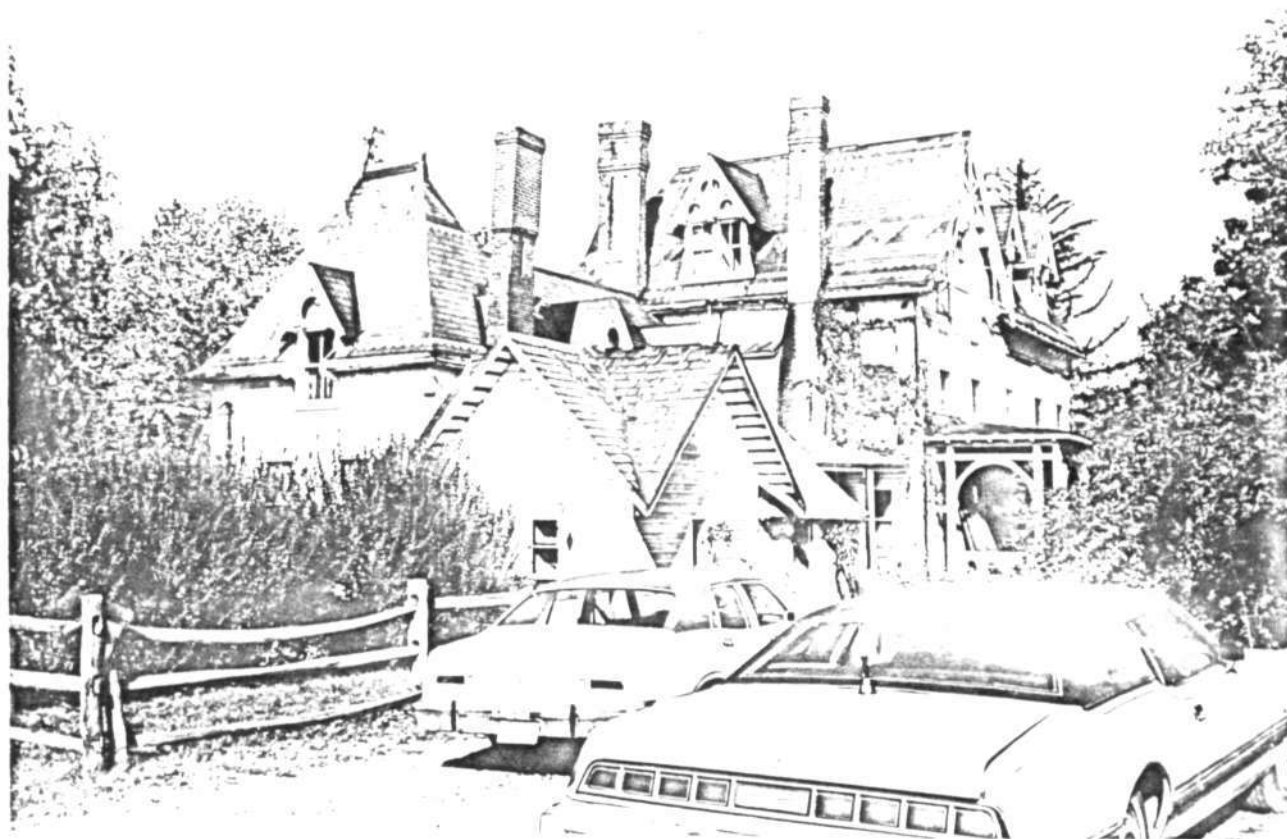
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B 18/350 440  
4300100

C 18/350 LLO  
4300000

D 18/350 090  
4300260



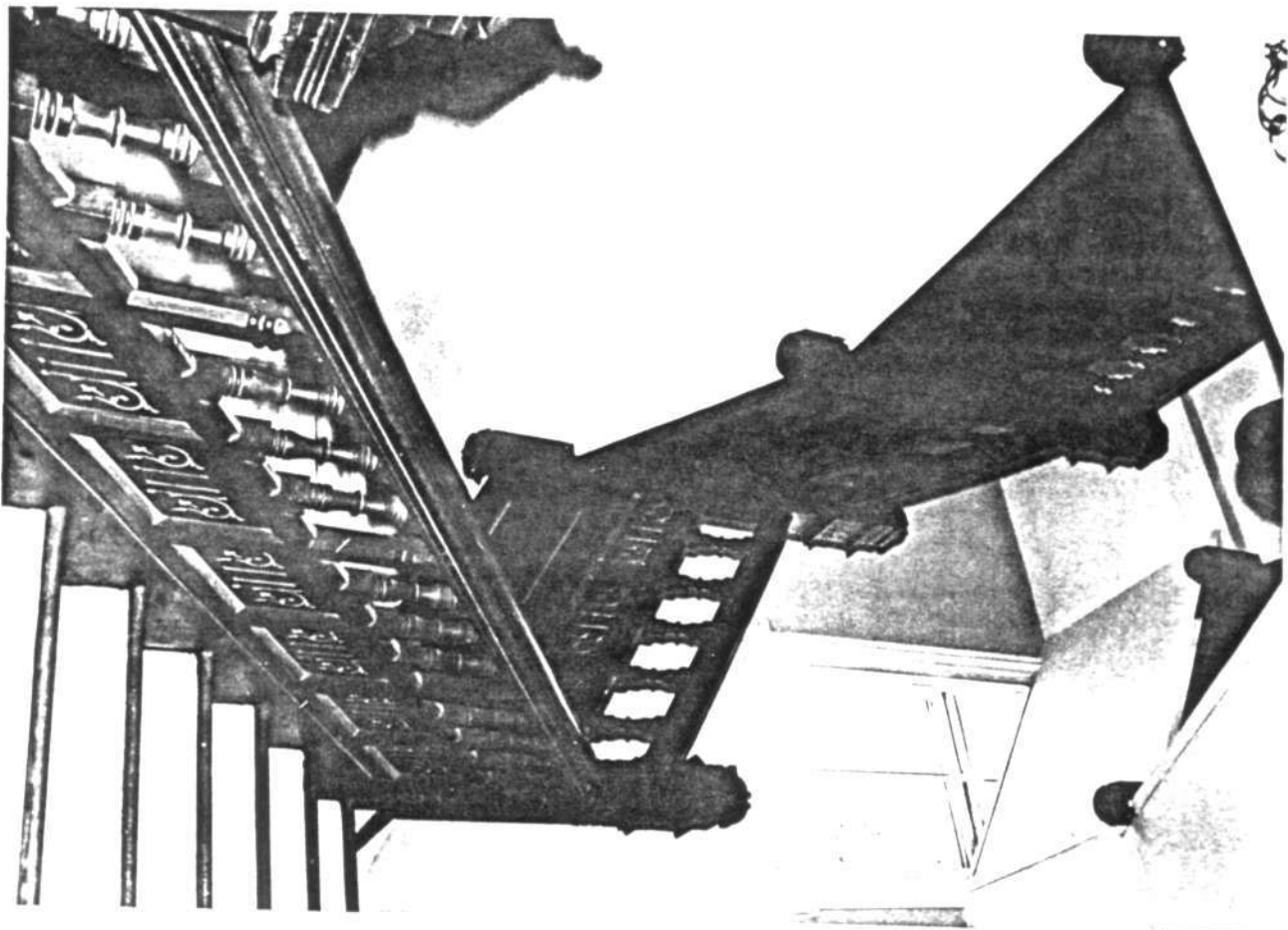


Bowling Heights  
Prince George's County, Maryland  
Peter E. Kurtze, October 1980  
Negatives at Maryland Historical Trust  
Exterior, facing southwest  
1 of 4

Bowling Heights  
Prince George's County, Maryland  
Peter E. Kurtze, October 1980  
Negatives at Maryland Historical Trust  
Exterior, facing northwest  
2 of 4

DEC 3 1980





Bowling Heights  
Prince George's County, Maryland  
Peter E. Kurtze, October 1980  
Negatives at Maryland Historical Trust  
West facade  
3 of 4

2FC 3 300

leights  
orge's County, Maryland  
Kurtze, October 1980  
s at Maryland Historical Trust  
detail of stair



pending

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 79-5 Date c. 1877  
Building Name Bowling Heights  
Location Old Crain Highway at #301, Upper Marlboro  
Open to Public      yes   x   no

Bowling Heights is a very large frame three-part, two-and-one-half story Victorian Gothic mansion with massive trim on the gables and porches, and a patterned slate roof. The main section is five bays wide, with the main entrance in the third (recessed) bay of the west facade. The first two bays are in a gable end, while the third, fourth and fifth are beneath a mansard roof. There are two wings: the north is semi-octagonal, one story high, with a steep, nearly conical, hip roof; the south is three bays wide and one-and-one-half stories high. These two wings were known as the "card room", and the kitchen and servants' quarters, respectively. Interior details are chiefly Eastlake style, ornate and massive.

Bowling Heights is significant, because it is the largest house of its age and style in this county. Its original owner was John D. Bowling, whose family built a slightly smaller "twin" to Bowling Heights in Aquasco.

Bowling Heights has recently been altered to house two families. All alterations appear to have been made thoughtfully, with consideration to the possibility of future restoration to the original state.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Bowling Heights

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**STREET & NUMBER  
6013 Old Crain Highway, Upper MarlboroCITY, TOWN  
Upper Marlboro

VICINITY OF U.M.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE  
MarylandCOUNTY  
Prince George's**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY  | OWNERSHIP                                   | STATUS                                       | PRESENT USE  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT               | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED          | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE              | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH               | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS    | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                   | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                   | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT                 | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS         | <input type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED      | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC                    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED    | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION                |
|   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO       | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER                           |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME John Myers

Telephone #: 301-627-3376

STREET & NUMBER  
6013 Old Crain HighwayCITY, TOWN  
Upper Marlboro

VICINITY OF U.M.

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 20870**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. P.G. County Courthouse

Liber #: 2954

Folio #: 129

STREET & NUMBER  
Main StreetCITY, TOWN  
Upper MarlboroSTATE  
Maryland**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**TITLE  
not in HABS

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

PG:79-5

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                   | CHECK ONE   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |   | DATE _____  |

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bowling Heights is a large (22 rooms), rectangular shaped frame, three-part two-and-one-half story Victorian Gothic mansion with massive trim on the gables and porches, and a patterned slate roof. The main section is five bays wide. The main entrance is in the third bay, which is recessed. The west facade has the first two bays in a gable end, while the third, fourth and fifth bays are beneath a mansard roof with two unmatched gable dormers. The five-bay, one-story porch has chamfered square posts and arched brackets. Two external chimneys at each end wall have recessed panels and corbelled caps. The east facade is similar with the exception that none of the bays is recessed and the roof is a gable shape, not mansard. The floor plan is that of a center hall with two rooms on each side.

The north wing is semi-octagonal, one story high, and has a very steep hip roof, almost conical, with Gothic arch transoms and bracketed gables. It has always been called the "card room".

The south wing is three bays wide and one-and-one-half stories high. The first two bays have a gable roof, while the third bay has a steep hip roof with dormers which break through the eaves. The south wing was built as a kitchen and servants' quarters.

The present owner has altered the mansion to house two families. The main hallway is temporarily partitioned, creating two separate entrances from the front hallway. The north wing has been altered to allow its use as a kitchen. The south wing has been altered to house a modern kitchen and family living quarters. All alterations appear to have been made thoughtfully, with full consideration given to the possibility of future restoration to the original state. The interior details are chiefly in the style of Eastlake, ornate and massive.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

| PERIOD  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1877

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bowling Heights is significant because it is the largest house of its age and style in this county. (It has a slightly smaller "twin" at Aquasco, the Forbes House, which was also built by the Bowling family. Recently, when hardware on a door in the attic was removed, a pencilled inscription dated 1877 revealed the name "George N. Ellis, carpenter from Baltimore". The original owner was John D. Bowling (1837-1887).

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Prince George's County Land Records: Lib.2954,fol.129; Lib.2813, fol.33; Lib.2801,fol.596; Lib.2471,fol.457,460; Lib.499, fol.52; Lib.124,fol.460; HB#12,fol.542.

Interview with Mrs. Myers, March 10, 1978.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 15 acres

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION****LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Margaret W. Cook

ORGANIZATION

P.G. Co. Historical and Cultural Trust

DATE

January 1979

STREET &amp; NUMBER

5621 Delaware Drive

TELEPHONE

301-839-3638

CITY OR TOWN

Oxon Hill, Maryland

STATE

20021

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

PG 74-5  
170 2855504

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

## NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|  |  |  |                            |   |
|--|--|--|----------------------------|---|
| <b>1. NAME</b>   |  |  |                            |   |
| COMMON:  |  |  |                            |   |
| AND/OR HISTORIC:<br>Bowling Heights or John Bowling House  |  |  |                            |   |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>   |  |  |                            |   |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>Crain Highway (Rte. 408)   |  |  |                            |   |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Upper Marlboro  |  |  |                            |   |
| STATE:<br>Maryland   |  |  | COUNTY:<br>Prince George's |   |
| <b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>   |  |  |                            |   |
| CATEGORY<br>(Check One)  |  | OWNERSHIP  |                            | ACCESSIBLE<br>TO THE PUBLIC   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Public<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both                                    |                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work<br>in progress                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Structure   |  | Public Acquisition:<br><input type="checkbox"/> In Process<br><input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered  |                            | Yes:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Restricted<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                                      |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)   |  |  |                            |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural<br><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Educational<br><input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Government<br><input type="checkbox"/> Industrial<br><input type="checkbox"/> Military<br><input type="checkbox"/> Museum |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Park<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence<br><input type="checkbox"/> Religious<br><input type="checkbox"/> Scientific |
|  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____  |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____   |
| <b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>  |  |  |                            |   |
| OWNER'S NAME:<br>John Myers  |  |  |                            |   |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>Crain Highway (Rte. 408)   |  |  |                            |   |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Upper Marlboro  |  |  | STATE:<br>Maryland         |   |
| <b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>  |  |  |                            |   |
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:<br>Prince George's County Court House  |  |  |                            |   |
| STREET AND NUMBER:   |  |  |                            |   |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Upper Marlboro  |  |  | STATE:<br>Maryland         |   |
| Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):  |  |  |                            |   |
| <b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>   |  |  |                            |   |
| TITLE OF SURVEY:<br>Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region   |  |  |                            |   |
| DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local            |  |  |                            |   |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:<br>M-NCPPC  |  |  |                            |   |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>8787 Georgia Avenue  |  |  |                            |   |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Silver Spring   |  |  | STATE:<br>Maryland         |   |



## 7. DESCRIPTION

|           |   |                                    |  |   |                                |                                    |
|-----------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                                 |                                    |  |   |                                |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent          | <input type="checkbox"/> Good      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
|           | (Check One)                                 |                                    |  | (Check One)                                       |                                |                                    |
|           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site |                                |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a two story, frame building with a mansard roof. The main (west) facade is five bays with a recessed central entrance bay. The windows are 2/4 double hung sash, opening to the floor of the porch that extends across the facade. The two north bays have a facade gable with stick-style gable trim. There are two dormer windows, the center one, a single window and the south, a double window; both have stick style trim. The porch has square posts with chamfering and go<sup>4</sup>rgework, and arched brackets. The rear facade is the mirror image of the main facade.

On the north end is an apse-like, semi-octagonal wing. It has a narrow doorway with a tall dormer above and windows with pointed heads.

On the south end there is a story and a-half wing of three bays built on a T-plan. There are three dormer windows that break through the eaves and have stick-style motifs.

The house is covered with horizontal siding and board-and-batten siding. The roof is covered with pattern slate tiles. At either end there are two external chimneys with recessed panels and corbelled caps.

There is a dairy barn, a meat house, and a corn crib dating from the period of the house.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

In plan, the house has a central hall and flanking double rooms. The staircase, at the east end of the hall rises in a triple run; it is dark stained wood with large, square newel posts of generally Eastlakeian style. The hall and southwest room have floors of alternating light and dark boards. All of the downstairs rooms have heavy, Italianate ceiling cornices and heavy door and window trim. In the center of each ceiling is a large plaster medallion of elaborate foliated design; the ones on the ceilings of the two north rooms also have rings of women's heads in three dimensional relief. The fireplace surrounds are marble, with pilasters supporting a frieze with a low arch profile on the lower side; the mantle shelves are a wide slab of marble.

The second floor plan is similar to the first floor except for a room across one end of the hall. The attic also has the same general plan.

The north wing was once a chapel and later a "game room." It has a semi-octagonal apse at the north end. The ceiling was a tall ribbed vault; it now has a temporary flat ceiling installed at the springing of the arches.

The south wing has been remodelled on the ground floor, with a kitchen and passageway to the south end room. This end room was once the kitchen; the fireplace has been altered. The second floor of this wing has a hallway along the east side with three rooms opening off of it. At the north end of the hallway, doors open to south bedrooms of the main section. This south wing has a cellar of cut stone blocks; it is the only section of the house with a basement.

In the basement and attic, framing members are all circular sawn 2 x 8's.

The house has been divided into two semi-independent units; the partitions are all temporary, however, and none of the trim has been disturbed while inserting them.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c.1865

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry

losophy

☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☐ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE  | LONGITUDE               |  |
|  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees Minutes Seconds   | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "   | ° ' "                   |  |
| NE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "   | ° ' "                   |  |
| SE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "   | ° ' "                   |  |
| SW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "   | ° ' "                   |  |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

|  |                   |                  |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| NAME AND TITLE:<br>Christopher Owens, Park Historian |                   | DATE<br>3 Oct 74 |
| ORGANIZATION<br>M-NCPPC                              |                   |                  |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>8787 Georgia Avenue            |                   |                  |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Silver Spring                       | STATE<br>Maryland |                  |

## 12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

R-E

LELAND

ROAD

SOUTH

301

SWANSON

ROAD

District

O-S

Branch

RIVER

R-E

CREEK

Collington

R-A

Branch

RTE

C-M

BOWLING HEIGHTS

R (79-5)

East

DRIVE

WEST

R-R

RTE

ETON DR

R-E

202

R-R

R-A

O-S

SEE APPROVED  
BASIC PLAN  
REF. A-7268

R-R

408

C-M

C-O

O-S

SEE INSET

Branch

R

AVENUE

MD. RTE 4

PATUXENT

C-M

C-M

R-A

O-S

Branch

ROAD

STATION

CROOM

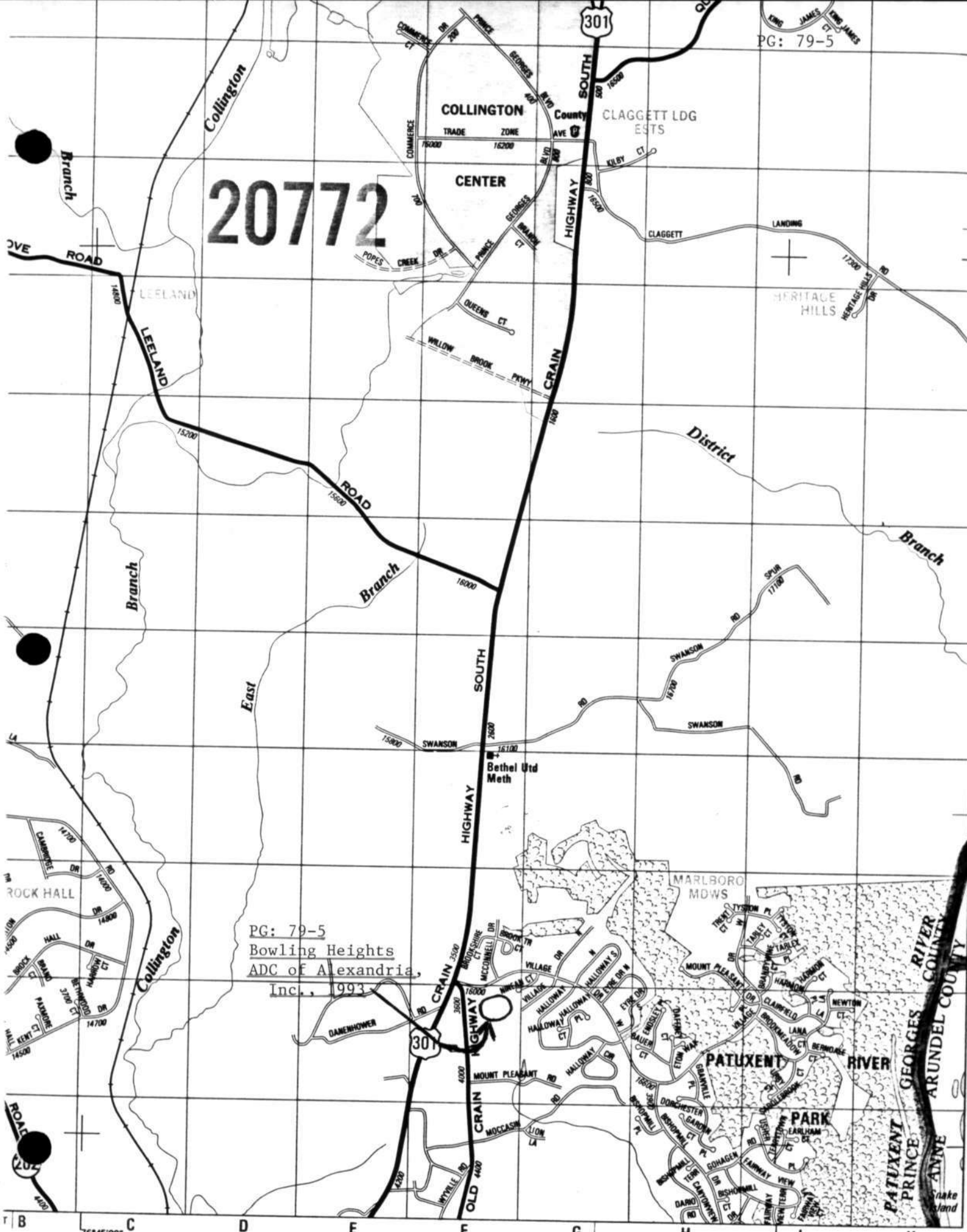
Tavern

RAILROAD

Branch

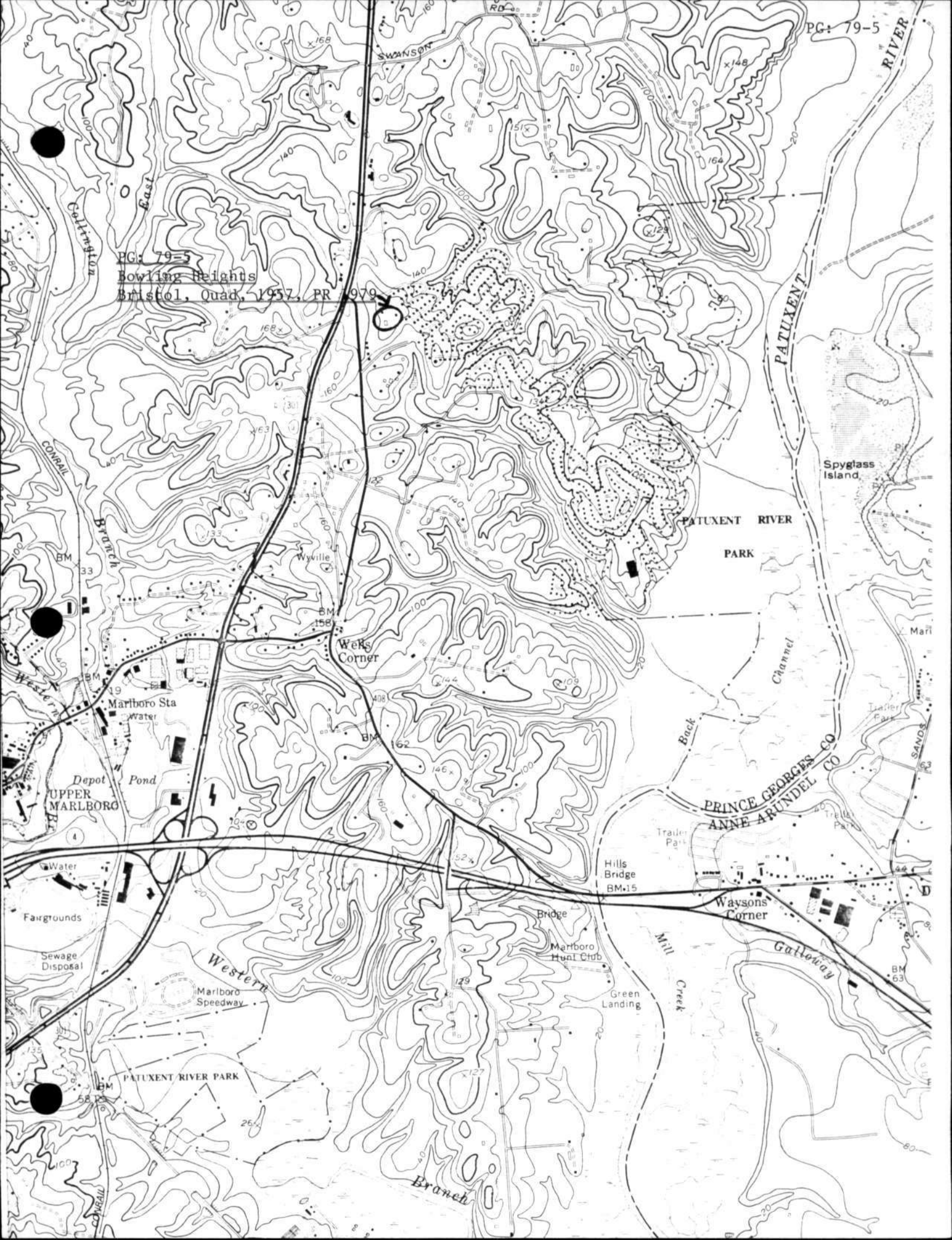
20772

PG: 79-5  
Bowling Heights  
ADC of Alexandria,  
Inc., 1993





PG: 79-5  
Bowling Heights  
Bristol, Quad, 1957, PR 1979





NAME BOWLING HEIGHTS PG: 79-5

LOCATION Rt. 301 & 408, UPPER MARLBORO, Md.

FACADE W

PHOTO TAKEN 10/3/74 M DWYER



NAME BOWLING HEIGHTS

PG: 79-5

LOCATION Rt. 301 & 408

FACADE S

PHOTO TAKEN 10/3/74 M DWYER





NAME BOWLING HEIGHTS

PG: 79-5

LOCATION Rt. 301 & 408, UPPER MARLBORO, Md.

FACADE SE

PHOTO TAKEN 10/3/74 M DWYER



NAME BOWLING HEIGHTS PG: 79-5

LOCATION Rt 301 & 408, UPPER MARLBORO, Md.

FACADE NW

PHOTO TAKEN 10/3/74 M DWYER